



**CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
August 16, 2016**

The Board of Education of Canyons School District met in a study session and business meeting on Tuesday, August 16, 2016 beginning at 5 pm at the Canyons Administration Building - East, 9351 S. 300 East, Sandy, UT 84070

Those present were:

Sherril Taylor, Board President
Steve Wrigley, Board Vice President – via phone
Nancy Tingey, Board Second Vice President
Robert Green, Board Member
Amber Shill, Board Member
Clareen Arnold, Board Member
Chad Iverson, Board Member
James Briscoe, Superintendent
Leon Wilcox, Chief Financial Officer
Charles Evans, Director External Relations - excused
Dan Harper, General Counsel

1. Study Session-- 5:30 pm

A. Districtwide Bell Efficiency Study -- Dr. Robert Dowdle and Leon Wilcox

- A few of the difficulties transportation has been facing and the reasons for the study are:
 - The District is having a difficult time in recruiting and maintaining bus drivers.
 - The possibility to give drivers more hours on longer routes to allow for better contracts and qualify for benefits.
 - Try to eliminate aging buses from our fleet. Currently buses cost between \$130,000 and \$150,000 depending on type and size.
 - More efficiency in District operations.
- Edulog is the software company that we use to manage our transportation department. They provided the efficiency study. The Edulog routing data for this study was prepared by removing all data not associated with the transportation of students to and from school in the morning and afternoons. Field trip, Kindergarten and Preschool routes were not included in the study. Once the data was removed there were 133 routes to consider. Thirteen were regular education single tier routes and eleven were single tier special needs routes. The main goal of this study was to try to multi-tier as many routes as possible to be more efficient.
- Three options were given to CSD and one was thrown out because the parameters were too wide. The other two options are as follows:
- Option One:
 - Expanded the time by 15 minutes, either later or earlier than the current time, by doing this we would eliminate 21 buses from operation daily.
 - Potential savings of approximately \$360,000 in annual operational costs (fuel, parts, mechanic labor).
 - Potential savings of approximately \$340,000 in annual bus driver salary and benefit savings.
 - This option would eliminate all Regular Ed single run buses but 10 Special Ed buses would still have a single run. A chart was shown on the number of schools impacted and how they would be impacted. Presentation and handouts are on BoardDocs.
- Option Two:
 - Expand the time by 30 minutes either earlier or later than the current time.
 - This option eliminates 33 buses from daily operation.
 - Potential savings of approximately \$567,000 in annual operational costs (fuel, parts, mechanic labor).
 - Potential savings of approximately \$530,000 in annual bus driver salary and benefit savings.

- This option would eliminate all Regular Ed single run buses but 5 Special Ed buses would still have a single run. A chart was shown on the number of schools impacted and how they would be impacted.

Comparison Chart	Current	Option One	Option Two
Number of Routes	133	122	100
Number of single tier regular education routes	13	0	0
Number of single tier special education routes	11	10	5
School bell times modified		40	38

Please see the documents on BoardDocs for individual schools impacted by bell changes for options one and two.

- The times are changed for efficiency and the concentration of buses in certain areas. No bus routes will be eliminated; the routes would be stacked rather than single tier. We will eliminate most of the single tier routes. Some routes will be two deep and some would be three deep.
- This would also allow the hiring of full time bus drivers so they could get benefits. Clareen mentioned that our part-time bus drivers are having to work multiple jobs and this would help retain bus drivers.
- Chad Iverson appreciates the clear, concise analysis. He asked if another option is to stay where we are and what would we do with the savings? Bob Dowdle said there are three options; do nothing and leave it the way it is, Option One or Option Two as outlined in the Edulog study. This is a first opportunity to look at the study, we are not making any recommendations other than to consider what to do with this information. This is for the Board to review and advise us. Leon said that every year we look at the budget and the savings would help offset future inflationary costs. The number of buses needed would be a cost savings to us as well.
- Nancy Tingey mentioned that the State subsidizes some of our transportation expenses, around 65%, and she wanted to know if this would change the amount we receive. Leon said the amount would not change because we are still transporting the same number of students just driving fewer miles.
- Bruce Young, Director of Transportation, in talking with other districts, found that some districts that are larger than ours have about the same size fleet as Canyons. This information prompted the study.
- Steve Wrigley asked what percentage of the budget goes to transportation? Leon said the total dollar amount is about \$7.5 million. These changes would cut approximately \$700,000 or better. Steve also wanted to know how bad the bus driver shortage is and if we were running subs? There are days where we do not have enough drivers, even drivers on-call, to cover daily needs. Bruce said there are times when as many as twelve people from the office are out driving buses. We won't be eliminating any driver positions because the part time/sub drivers will be driving field trips and the shorter routes. This would allow us to better use our workforce. The regular drivers will drive the morning and afternoon routes.
- Robert Green asked how the time changes would affect families? Could we have an option where we have someone at the school if the parents need to drop the student off earlier? Bob Dowdle commented that we have considered those issues but we don't have an answer at this point. The next step would be to take it to the SCCs at the schools. Clareen pointed out that people need to adapt to the time change as an employee and as a parent. She didn't see any horrible times with the options presented and we would give them plenty of notice and time to adapt.
- Most part-time drivers want to work full-time. We could probably add another 20 drivers to full-time status. The savings Leon mentioned would be net of moving some drivers to full time. The savings include bus repairs, fuel, tires, and a reduction in the expense of using the mechanics as drivers. Some of the issues in transportation will also be diminished if we have more full time people. This would help over-all with the busing system.
- Training is a big component with 65 hours of training required by State law. We lose between seven and ten contract drivers a year and twelve to fifteen part-time drivers a year. Some drivers get their CDL and leave. A program was implemented by Transportation that new drivers need to work for 4 months to have the CDL class paid for.
- President Taylor asked that we take this to the parents at the schools. Let patrons see the savings and the start and end times. This change might be easier if they understand the cost savings. Bob Dowdle will get the presentation out to principals and ask principals to present to the SCCs. The Board would like the feedback in writing. Clareen suggested to also add information regarding the safety to our children and retaining employees in the presentation. Steve Wrigley & Chad Iverson believe it would be helpful to show

where the savings would go and the benefits of changing start and end times. Jim Briscoe stated that when we train our principals let them know that we are only looking for feedback, this is information only and a neutral discussion. This is not a proposal from the administration for change and there is no time frame set to implement this. This could be a hot topic and we will need to be prepared with a statement that will direct people to send questions to Communications. Jeff Haney mentioned that Communications would be available to collect and compile the information for the Board.

B. Midvale Elementary Parent Teacher Conference Date Change – Karen Sterling

- This is a request to adjust the dates of the parent teacher conferences for one school, Midvale Elementary. No other dates will change. This information has been shared with faculty and CEA is in support of this. Student attendance days and times will not change and this does not conflict with any middle or high school conferences. The change is needed because Midvale Elementary is a Turnaround School and this requires the teacher to conduct parent teacher conferences in a different way. As they go through the process the teachers must be observed then attend a follow-up training. This change is to accommodate WestEd, the consultants that are working with Midvale in the turnaround process. WestEd has to work with many different schools and school districts which makes scheduling difficult. These will probably be floating dates each year as long as the school is a Turnaround School. This will be communicated to the families at Midvale Elementary in a variety of ways. The parents come three times a year to parent teacher conferences to build the skill of the parent in helping their children be successful in school. This is a request to amend the schedule for Midvale Elementary only.

Adjourn study session at 6:30 pm

2. Business Meeting – 7:30 pm

3. Opening Items

- A. Welcome
- B. Approve the Agenda for August 16, 2016.

MOTION: Robert Green moved to approve the agenda for August 16, 2016. Amber Shill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Pledge of Allegiance – Susan Edwards
- D. Reverence – Karen Sterling, Director of Student Advocacy and Access
 - Olympics and sports themed remarks. Appreciation of coaches and athletic directors in our schools. Karen thanked the Board for their support in creating a District that values students, parents, teachers and administrators and appreciates growth and progress as well as ultimate outcomes.

4. Recognitions – Jeff Haney

- We're grateful for the opportunity to spend a few moments during Board meeting to recognize those in the Canyons community who have done so much to further the mission of Canyons School District to ensure the college- and career-readiness of every child. In the recent weeks, our lives here at the District have been busy with the preparation for the coming academic school year. Tonight, however, we're honoring the hard work and dedication from last year. We're honoring a rock star high school social studies teacher, our innovative Nutrition Services Director, the people who have instilled a sense of stellar sportsmanship in our student cheering sections, and a specialist who arguably brought national attention to Canyons with a national debate tournament.
- We'd like to introduce some new administrators in Canyons District. First, Misty Suarez, Canyons' new Special Education Director. Some of you may remember Misty from her time as the principal of Mount Jordan Middle at the time of the District's creation. Misty, who has 16 years of administrative experience and is licensed in special education, returns to us after serving as the Director of Student Services in Salt Lake City School District.
- We also would like to introduce Taylor Hansen, who is now an assistant principal at Union Middle. Taylor's experience includes working as an assistant principal at Washington Middle in the Seattle Public School District. Taylor is a University of Utah Ute and also pursued a master's degree at Seattle Pacific University.

- Now we'll turn our attention to our monthly honorees. Our first honoree is **Aaron Hadfield**, Brighton High civics teacher. Mr. Hadfield is a 2016 recipient of the Huntsman Award for Excellence in Education. Aaron Hadfield has found a way to teach politics, history and government in a way that students are captivated from the moment they enter the classroom. Long after the semester is over, they will remember the time Hadfield hosted a mock presidential primary or held them under totalitarian rule for two weeks. For his innovative teaching style, Hadfield was recently chosen to be one of 11 Utah teachers to receive the Huntsman Award for Excellence in Education. Hadfield was honored at a banquet and received a \$10,000 check for his award.
- Our next honoree is **Sebastian Varas**, Canyons District's Nutrition Services director. Sebastian was awarded the President's Award of Excellence from School Nutrition Association. Under the direction of Sebastian Varas, school lunch reputations have gone from not-so-filling to fantastic as students eat nutritious, balanced and delicious meals every day. Varas was recognized recently by the School Nutrition Association for his dedication to expanding training opportunities for school nutrition professionals, enhancing the public image of school meals and increasing community outreach and support of the school meal system. Varas received the President's Award of Excellence at a national conference for the SNA in Texas earlier this summer. Only two other professionals from the country received the President's award this year. Thank you for your dedicated work!
- Our next honorees are **Canyons District's five traditional, and fantastic, high schools** – Alta High, Brighton High, Corner Canyon High, Hillcrest High and Jordan High. They all have received the "Raise the Bar" sportsmanship award from the Utah High School Activities Association. Students at Canyons' high schools are champions in and out of athletics — but when it comes to sportsmanship, they're all-stars. Alta, Brighton, Corner Canyon, Hillcrest and Jordan High have all raised the bar set by the Activities Association to show good sportsmanship at athletic events. Students cheer for their own teams, rather than rooting against their rivals. The UHSAA has given each of our high schools a star in recognition of the students' success in displaying good sportsmanship in the Raise-the-Bar program.
- Our next honoree is **Leslie Robinette**, an English Language Arts instructional support specialist. She's here to be honored and help us present a thank you from National Speech and Debate Association. Canyons was home to the largest academic contest in the nation this summer, as 4,200 high school students and 887 middle school students came to compete in the National Speech and Debate Tournament. Students visited Canyons schools from 8 different countries and 1,337 different schools, providing an opportunity for Canyons' own middle school students, who are too young to travel to out-of-state competitions, to compete in the prestigious event. The National Speech and Debate Association would like to thank Canyons for the use of more than 600 different competitions spaces in seven schools for a week in June. The Association thanks Alta, Brighton, Hillcrest and Jordan High, as well as Butler, Indian Hills and Mount Jordan Middle for their hospitality and support during one of the largest academic competitions. And we thank you, Leslie, and your whole team for your work on this event this summer in Canyons.
- We also want to show the community some of the hard work that our in-house graphic designer, **Jeff Olson**, has been doing to update some of our school logos. Here is a look at five of the logos we've updated. We do this only when approached by the school, or when a new school is being built, and with parent and principal input every step of the design process. Butler Elementary has a new look for their logo to go with their new school. As you may know, we're holding a party to celebrate the opening of the new school, which was done with proceeds from a \$250 million bond approved by voters in 2010. Everyone is invited to the ribbon-cutting and open house on Thursday. A reception is at 5:30 p.m. The ceremony, which will be emceed, by our very own Amber Shill, who represents the school, will be at 6 p.m. An open house will follow. Join us at this historic event. It's a beautiful new school, and we're pleased to be able to provide these safe and welcoming learning environments for our students.

5. Patron Comments

- **Jen Butters – CEA President** - Academic Pathway to Teaching
CEA supports and applauds the efforts of the Canyons HR Department and Steve Dimond in their efforts to staff the classrooms and fill support positions. In this time of teacher shortage, their work is incredible. Due to Utah's teacher shortage the Utah State Board of Education passed a rule creating the Academic Pathway to Teaching, also known as APT. This rule allows anyone with a Bachelor's Degree, who passes a Praxis subject area test, to immediately obtain a teaching license. This is problematic and has brought negative national attention to Utah. CEA believes there is a time and a place for ARL. Many teachers are feeling demoralized and feel it devalues the teaching license. We need to have a competitive pay/benefit package

and create a culture and school environment where educators feel their professionalism is valued. We need to hire and keep the best teachers. We have the same goal to provide the highest quality education to our students and we need to work together to elevate the profession of educator so that CSD can weather this teacher shortage.

- **Randy Olsen – Jordan High School - Academic Pathway to Teaching**

I find some merit in this rule but there are some things to be considered. After the district split we have been committed in our efforts to our teachers to reward them with their steps and lanes for going back to school and getting additional certifications and Master's degrees. Thanks to the Board for supporting that effort and, this past year, rewarding us for longevity of service. We need to continue to encourage the Legislature and the State School Board that teacher retention and teacher pay are critical elements. Education funding needs to be different and we need to pay teachers as professionals. Continue to reward teachers. Right now, you are not paying for highly effective teachers you are paying for effective teachers. When we can see pay that is requisite with professional efforts and work it becomes easier to put the effort in to be highly effective.

- **Mark Besendorfer – 5th grade teacher in CSD - Academic Pathway to Teaching**

Mark is disappointed in what the State School Board has done with the APT. This sends the wrong message and does not show teachers that they are valued and appreciated. We have an excellent EBL department and they do an excellent job. Mark is a teacher that went through the ARL program. That program required extensive coursework in teaching methods. Mark attended classes for 2 ½ years in education to get his certificate. During those first several years he made a lot of mistakes but he was fortunate to have good mentors help him with classroom management and techniques. Content is a given but 90% is the art of teaching. He is very concerned about this new program. He hopes the Board will consider making a decision to continue to support quality teaching and not water down the requirements. Do not lower the standards for our teachers.

- **Kathleen Riebe – Parent - Academic Pathway to Teaching**

Canyons is building a great community for our students. It was disheartening to hear about this new plan. They don't know how they are going to implement it and they don't have any idea how it is going to play out. It is disheartening for teachers that have worked so hard to become the teacher they want to be. She works with Granite School District, on the negotiating committee, and they work very hard to increase wages and protect steps and lanes as well as make it a great place to work. We can create a better work environment rather than diminish our standards. I hope we can continue to support teachers by keeping a high standard for our kids.

6. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes from August 2, 2016 Board Meeting
- B. Approval of Purchasing Bids
- C. Approval of July Financial Reports
- D. Approval of Student Overnight Travel
- E. Approval of Hire and Termination Reports
- F. Approval of United Way Agreement for 2016-17
- G. Midvale Elementary Parent Teacher Conference Date Change

MOTION: Robert Green moved to approve the Consent Agenda Item 6A Approval of Minutes from August 2, 2016; Item 6B Approval of Purchasing Bids; Item 6C Approval of July Financial Reports; Item 6D Approval of Student Overnight Travel; Item 6E Approval of Hire and Termination Reports; Item 6F Approval of United Way Agreement for 2016-17 and Item 6G Midvale Elementary Parent Teacher Conference Date Change. Nancy Tingey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. New Business

A. 11th Grade State Assessment – Dr. Hal Sanderson (Second Reading, Possible Action)

- H.B. 200 was discussed in a study session a few weeks back. This legislation gives the option to have a waiver for end-of-year State testing in the 11th Grade. Currently we offer both the SAGE and the ACT test in 11th grade. Pros and Cons have been presented to the Board. The possible action is to use the waiver and eliminate end-of-year testing, currently known as SAGE in 11th Grade.

MOTION: Nancy Tingey moved that in Canyons District, as provided by the testing requirement waiver by passage of H.B. 200 in the 2016 Utah Legislative Session, Canyons School District will no longer administer end-

of- year criterion-referenced tests, currently known as SAGE, to Grade 11 students. Chad Iverson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion: Nancy Tingey mentioned that these conversations are taking place nationwide. There is value in SAGE and Nancy is hopeful that, as we move forward, the State can repurpose some of the components of the SAGE test. Robert Green wanted confirmation that it is for this year and for years to come, moving forward. Hal Sanderson confirmed that it is from this point on. Chad Iverson is grateful to the Legislature for giving us the opportunity to opt out of this test. He likes that we can use the nationally recognized test. Per Steve Wrigley, a lot of our patrons have asked for this, since SAGE is not being used for grades this gives our teachers more time for instruction.

B. Purchase of property located at 11500 S. Lone Peak Parkway (Action Requested)-- Leon Wilcox

- For the last few years we have been looking at property on the west side of I-15 in Draper. We want to be in front of the growth for a possible new elementary site. A map of Draper was displayed showing the property that is being considered, the map is on BoardDocs. The area is between the Lone Peak Highway and the Jordan River from 11400 South to 12300 South. Everything south of 12300 is still going to be developed, which is part of the Utah Prison Relocation Committee. In this area last year, we had about 267 grades K-5 students and we expect those numbers to rise quickly in the next few years. We have found someone willing to sell this piece of property, Property Reserve Inc. They are a real estate corporation for the LDS Church. The piece of property we are looking at is about 13-acres in size. We like to have at least 10 acres for an elementary school. The land is currently zoned residential and commercial. We like this piece of property because it already has utility hookups and would need minimal earth work. There is a canal that would need to be covered. This site is accessible off of Lone Peak Highway or through the neighborhood. We feel this will be a good site for a future school. A drawing of how a school and parking would look on the property was displayed and is on BoardDocs. There would be about three acres of open space. A sound wall would need to be built because it is on the Frontrunner line.
- The contract is on BoardDocs – Purchase & Sales Agreement (PSA). Negotiated price is \$6,276,596. This amounts to roughly \$11.15 per square foot for the whole parcel which is a blended rate of commercial and residential values. As a comparison, the piece to the north paid a blended rate of \$14.00 per square foot. The purchase price was approved by the Presiding Bishopric of the LDS Church. Leon Wilcox, Dan Harper and Paul VanKomen, outside counsel, have reviewed the contract. Item 7.1 in the contract has a restriction that only an elementary school, no secondary schools, can be built on this site. We are comfortable with this restriction; we want it for an elementary school. The canal company owns the canal and access to the canal. A building cannot be built over the canal but a parking lot allowable. Access to the canal will be through man-hole covers. There will be no danger to children.

MOTION: Chad Iverson moved to approve the purchase of the 13.024 acres from PRI for \$6,276,596.00. The legal property description can be found on exhibit A of the attached PSA. Approve the Purchase and Sales Agreement attached on Board Docs and authorize Dr. Briscoe and Leon Wilcox to sign said agreement. Authorize Leon Wilcox to approve and sign all documents related to the transaction closing of this property. Require Leon Wilcox to provide regular updates to the Board regarding the progress towards closing of the property. Clareen Arnold seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion: Chad Iverson appreciates the consideration of this. There is growth in Draper and we will need this school. The people on the west side of Draper have traveled to the east side of I-15 for years to attend school. The purchase of this property is the first step and we can discuss, at a future time, putting an elementary school there. President Taylor thanked Leon for his work on this.

8. Staff Comments

A. Superintendent Report

- This past week Jim went to each of the high schools. Things are very exciting and positive at all five high schools and the administrative teams seem to be working well together. Butler Elementary is a beautiful school with the ribbon cutting this Thursday at 5:30 pm. Thanks to the Board of Education for their support and approving the initiatives and programs that are having a positive impact on our schools. We are going to have a great year.

B. Chief Financial Officer Report

- Two projects of note, one is Alta High which received new turf but also received a new water heater and boiler. Secondly, Bell View's parking lot should be done by Friday and there is new carpet in the building. Thanks to the IT department for their hard work. We have over 26,000 registrations completed. Student interns are helping out. We still have openings in our Supplemental Kindergarten Hours Program. Seats available at Altara, Bella Vista and Oakdale. The Brookwood location is full.

9. Board Comments

A. The President will recognize individual Board members for reports

- Robert Green: It was fun to participate in the Harvest Day Parade with Steve Wrigley. Looked at the progress of Midvale Middle with another tour with Leon. It is going to be an awesome building and he wishes he could be there when it opens. Teachers are on his mind with the new State rule for hiring teachers.
- Amber Shill: Excited for the Butler Elementary ribbon cutting. Cottonwood Heights has a luncheon for Teachers of the Year this week and Amber appreciates the City of Cottonwood Heights for working with us and honoring our teachers. She is excited for the first day of school.
- Nancy Tingey: Regarding the SAGE decision, our ISD department discussed creating some assessments directly connected to the standards that will be used instead of the SAGE to help inform instruction in those courses. This decision does not mean we are taking a lighter load or easier path. There will still be quality instruction and assessing going on so that we have good learning for those 11th grade students. Nancy had the great privilege of attending the celebration at Hillcrest High for students that participated in the Summer Boot Camp. It was a great accomplishment for the students. They knew they had friends and teachers that cared about them. It was very meaningful. I look forward to more reports about those students with the other supports that are in place.
- Steve Wrigley: Looking forward to the coming school year. It was a good summer and he participated in a few parades. Sorry that he will miss the Butler Elementary events.
- Claren Arnold wanted to thank all of the people in the different areas that are getting things up and ready for the new school year.
- Chad Iverson: Excited for the new school year and thanks to everyone for all of their hard work.
- Sherril Taylor: Excitement is building as the teachers and students return. Thanked those that spoke about the APT Program. As a retired educator, he is concerned about this. We need to be very careful in how we approach this. This could lead to something that would be detrimental to our teachers, students and parents of our district. Let's watch and see what happens because teachers work hard to get through college. My heart is with the teachers tonight. We appreciate all you do for the students. Thank you to the officers.

10. Closing Items

A. Adjourn

- Adjourned at 8:50 pm

/dh

ATTEST

_____ Board President

Sherril Taylor

_____ Superintendent

James Briscoe